

seek white businesses to accomplish their tasks.<sup>50</sup>

### *John G. Norwood*

John G. Norwood was also a leading member of the community, serving as senior warden to St. Mark's Episcopal Church and as a longtime member of the Board of Directors of Pine Forest Cemetery. Norwood owned a great deal of land in Wilmington, totaling over \$3,000 in value in 1897. By 1900, however, his property values had dropped to just over \$2,700. Norwood was a carpenter throughout his life, and he provided educational opportunities for his seven children, enabling them to become carpenters, politicians, teachers, and musicians. In 1900, Norwood was 72 years old, and his son Charles, a carpenter who had been unemployed for the last six months, was living with him. One of his other sons was living in the city, owned his own home, and worked as a mail carrier. Norwood died in 1906 and in his will decreed that his property would be divided among his widow and children. By the 1910 census, none of his sons were living in the city. Two lived in New York, one lived in New Jersey, and another lived in Philadelphia. The sons rented their homes and held various jobs, including salesman, carpenter, letter carrier, and collector at the customs house in Philadelphia. Just as Howard's estate was divided among his sons, such was the fate of Norwood's property. However, Norwood's sons and their families were all gone from the city within four years of their father's death and had improved their lives somewhat, working in professional and semi-professional fields in several different northern states. For Wilmington, however, the male branches of the Norwood family

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<sup>50</sup> Daniel Howard estate records, New Hanover County estates, North Carolina State Archives.

tree—potential generations of leadership in the community—were gone.<sup>51</sup>

### *Isham Quick*

Study of Isham Quick and his family provides another avenue by which to understand the impact of 1898. Quick was born in South Carolina and had moved to Wilmington by 1867. It is unclear if he was a slave or a freeman before the Civil War (there were a large number of men and women of the Quick family that were free in 1860 South Carolina). By 1870, Quick was working as a drayman and had acquired real estate valued at \$300. Quick remained a drayman for the rest of his working life and was able to support a large family throughout his lifetime, sending his children to school as he continued to acquire more property. Throughout his life, Quick acquired and sold multiple properties throughout the city, though in both the 1897 and 1900 tax records, he was listed as owning only two properties. The properties were valued at a total of \$800 in 1897 but declined in value by 1900 to a total worth of \$750.

Quick died sometime after 1910 and by the 1920 census, his children were less active than their father in business affairs. Most of his family remained in the city after their father's death, although one son, Isham, may have moved to New York by 1910. Two of his sons were working as draymen, and another was a porter with the Atlantic Coastline Railroad and two were renting their homes. Quick's wife and son William were able to maintain ownership of some property according to the census and

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<sup>51</sup> Reaves, *Strength Through Struggle*, 446-7; United States Census, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920; John G. Norwood estate records, New Hanover County Estate Records, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina; New Hanover County Tax Lists, 1897, 1900, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.